

ADMINISTRATIVE — INTERNAL USE ONLY

8 0 JUL 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for Administration
Special Assistant to the DCI for
Counterintelligence

FROM: Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

SUBJECT: Polygraphing National Security
Council Employees

1. Action Requested: That you approve the recommendation in paragraph three which calls for you to discuss the subject of polygraphing National Security Council employees with the President's National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski.

2. Background: As you know, it has been one of our goals in enhancing the security of Sensitive Compartmented Information and sources and methods information to expand the use of the polygraph throughout the Intelligence Community. One of the possibilities we have discussed is the National Security Council. Although these employees are subject to comprehensive background investigations conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, they have never been subject to polygraph examinations as part of their clearance procedures.

As the debate regarding the ratification of the SALT II treaty continues to generate an almost epidemic number of leaks of sensitive information, I feel this would be a propitious time for you to bring up with Dr. Brzezinski the utility of polygraphing National Security Council employees. It is my view that unauthorized disclosures regarding SALT matters are making it very difficult for our government and the public to make a decision on ratification in a calm and rational manner. No matter which side of the debate leaks information, it is usually done with a specific pro or con purpose in mind which results in sensational distortions by the press. Initiation of a polygraph program at the National Security Council could be very helpful in stemming the tide of leaks on SALT, as well as on other sensitive matters.

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The polygraph program I recommend be instituted at the National Security Council, would be based on very limited coverage, with only specific issues bearing on proper handling and safeguarding of classified information being covered. Additionally, in view of the relatively small number of people employed by the National Security Council, I believe that the Agency could volunteer its polygraph capability to conduct the program.

3. Recommendation: In view of the foregoing, I recommend that you use the current concern regarding SALT verification leaks as a vehicle to discuss with Dr. Brzezinski the possibility of initiating a polygraph program for National Security Council employees.

STA


Robert W. Gambino

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SUBJECT: (Optional)

Polygraphing National Security Council Employees

FROM:

Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

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Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

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